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PATENT STU

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

SWART ET AL.

Examiner:

K. JASTRZAB

Serial No.:

09/844,965

Group Art Unit:

1744

Filed:

APRIL 27, 2001

Docket No.:

163.1385US01

Confirmation No.:

1666

Title:

SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR CLEANING, HIGH LEVEL

DISINFECTION, OR STERILIZATION OF MEDICAL OR DENTAL

INSTRUMENTS OR DEVICES

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on October 7, 2004.

By: Rules Rales

## AMENDMENT & RESPONSE

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed July 7, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 6.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 28 of this paper and include both an attached replacement sheet and an annotated sheet showing changes in the Appendix.

Remarks begin on page 29 of this paper.

An Appendix including amended drawing figures is attached following page 34 of this paper.